

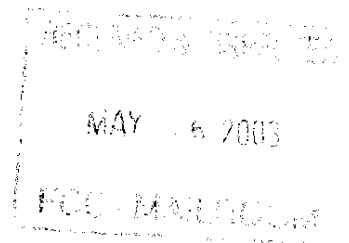
MARK J. STENGLEIN  
COMMISSIONER612-348-7882  
FAX 348-8701  
TDD 348-7708

03-90

## BOARD OF HENNEPIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

A 2400 GOVERNMENT CENTER  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55487-0240

April 17, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

As someone who is heavily involved in economic development, I am writing to support Qwest's efforts to re-enter the long distance market in Minnesota.

The State of Minnesota and Hennepin County are losing jobs and economic growth to states that have real competition. Why? Because companies will go where they can enjoy the benefits of competition: lower prices, improved service, and advanced technology.

In my work, I have found that telecommunications is fundamental to a strong economy. In fact, it is an essential component of a healthy community's infrastructure. Across the nation, competition for new and expanding businesses is intense. Only communities with a strong telecommunications infrastructure can attract these companies.

Full and fair long distance competition is central to a robust state economy and a growing economic climate. Only with a real choice for interstate long distance service will relocating and expanding companies benefit. This is especially true for companies that engage in high-speed, high-volume data transmissions.

Yet, we continue to wait. Please join me in supporting real competition in Minnesota's long distance market.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mark Stenglein".

Commissioner Mark Stenglein  
Hennepin County Commissioner  
A-2400 Government Center  
Minneapolis, MN 55487-0240

Confirmed

MAY 07 2003

Distribution Center

Hennepin County  
LIBRARY